

Economic Development Committee Memorandum
Board of Regents, State of Iowa

Subject: Options for Committee's Sioux City Meeting, August 3-4

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Date Submitted: May 10, 2004

Recommended Action:

Discuss and approve plans for the Committee's meeting in conjunction with the Board of Regents' August 3-4 meeting in Sioux City.

Executive Summary:

The Board of Regents holds periodic meetings in locations other than at its institutions, to serve as opportunities for the Regents and institution leaders to interact with local officials, business and community leaders, educators, and others across the state. The Economic Development Committee's August meeting in Sioux City will enable committee members, other Regents, and institution leaders to seize these opportunities while also demonstrating the Regent system's commitment to advancing Iowa's economy and its current impact in western and northern Iowa.

August meetings of the Board of Regents and its committees are scheduled to be held in the Sioux City Convention Center, located downtown near the Regents' reserved accommodations at the Holiday Inn, the Sioux City Art Center, the Orpheum Theater, and Historic Fourth Street. According to the committee's draft work plan, options for the Economic Development Committee meeting include the following:

- Begin the meeting mid-morning on August 3 with these agenda items: initial review of 2005 legislative issues; educational seminar on state biosciences recommendations facilitated by staff of the Battelle Foundation and Iowa Department of Economic Development; and discussion of issues in technology transfer.
- Break for the Regents' lunch with local elected officials, economic development leaders, Sioux City Chamber members, local media, and other guests.
- During lunch, Sioux City Mayor Dave Ferris and Chamber of Commerce President Debi Durham could be invited to share information and a presentation about the Siouxland area.
- After lunch, continue the Economic Development Committee meeting with lunch guests, featuring presentations by university staff on current economic development activities and impact, particularly in northern and western Iowa.

After the Board and/or Board committee meetings on August 3, the Board has the option of hosting an after-work reception at Sioux City's historic

Orpheum Theater for a broader group of Sioux City leaders, including lunch guests as well as educators, non-profit organization leaders, and others. Goals for this event include raising awareness of the Board of Regents and its institutions, building positive relationships with Siouxland area leaders, fostering the Regents' understanding of the region and its needs, and creating opportunities for future interactions.

In addition, interviews with President Forsyth and Regent Downer, chair of the Economic Development Committee, will be scheduled with local media, including the Sioux City Journal, KMNS Radio, and/or KCAU TV.
